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ample rewards she received, it would have been her wish, perhaps, that we should be content with this well balanced account; but remembering her quiet ways, her simple dress, and her scorn of self-indulgence, we feel that we ought to indicate by some sign the use she made of the earnings from her several employments. She had few ills of her own, but from her childhood she had been full of sympathy and tenderness for others who suffered. In her youth she gave to such *personal service*, out of the abundance of her strength, but later on she shared her *wages* with them, to a far greater advantage; and many now remember her best as the anxious friend who anticipated their wants.

Early in the winter of 1888, feeling that her strength was giving way, she resigned her chair at Vassar College, and retired as Professor Emerita. Other employments were relinquished. She returned to Lynn, and, after a very trying illness, she died there on the 28th of June of the same year.

#### THEODORE DWIGHT WOOLSEY.\*

THEODORE DWIGHT WOOLSEY was born in the city of New York, October 31, 1801. Both his parents were of English descent. His father, a prominent and successful merchant, sprung from a family which was early settled on Long Island. His mother, a sister of the first President Dwight, was a granddaughter of Jonathan Edwards. He was doubly connected with President Dwight, whose wife was a sister of his father. The relatives of President Woolsey were stanch Federalists of the Hamilton school. This was one of the influences which gave a highly conservative tone to his political feeling. He always felt a strong antipathy to Jefferson and his ideas of government. He disbelieved in the doctrine of universal suffrage. Dr. Woolsey was graduated at Yale College in 1820, when he received the highest honors of the class. On leaving college he spent a year in the study of law in the office of Mr. Charles Chauncey of Philadelphia, — a fruitful year in its influence on his subsequent literary life. Deciding to enter the ministry, he joined the Princeton Theological Seminary, which he left at the end of a year to become a Tutor in Yale. This return to New Haven was in 1823. While holding this office, he studied during another year in the Yale Theological School. In 1825 he was licensed to preach; but a distrust

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\* Not ready in time for the preceding Annual Report.

of his capacity to realize his high ideal of the clerical office prevented him from making the ministry his life-work. His profound sense of religion was accompanied with an over-humble estimate of his own character and qualifications for the sacred calling. From 1827 to 1830 he was in Europe as a student; mainly in Germany, where he studied Greek philology under the great masters, Hermann, Boeckh, and Welcker. He became an adept in his chosen branch. Besides being accurate in the grammatical and lexical interpretation of the ancient authors, he entered with insight and deep appreciation into their literary qualities, and into the political and social life of antiquity. In the autumn of 1831, he commenced his career as Professor of Greek at Yale. He held this place until he was appointed, in 1846, President of the College. During this term of years, he published critical editions of a number of the Greek tragedies, and of the *Gorgias* of Plato. It is not too much to say that these publications mark an epoch in the history of classical studies in America. They were characterized by a more exact and scientific dealing with the ancient literature than had been the wont among us. On acceding to the Presidency, — an office to which he was chosen while he was travelling abroad, and which he reluctantly accepted, — he resigned the Greek department, and thenceforward taught to the senior classes history, political economy, and international law. At the beginning he was no novice in these branches, and his familiar acquaintance with the principal modern, as well as the ancient tongues, qualified him for the further study of them. His treatise on International Law, one of the products of this study, was designed as a text-book in colleges, but it was accepted at once as having a place among the authorities on the subject which it handled. It is more than an exposition in an orderly form of international usages; it is interspersed with ethical observations of a critical character, which had for their aim the improvement of the science.

Although Dr. Woolsey held no political office, he took a lively interest in national affairs. He avowed before the public, on all important occasions, his political opinions and preferences. He was consulted by the government in reference to important points connected with international differences.

When Dr. Woolsey became President, he was ordained as a Congregational minister, and frequently preached in the College chapel. His sermons, a selection of which was published, by their thoughtfulness and their religious earnestness made a strong impression on the academic audiences that listened to them. Through his life he was

a frequent contributor to the periodical press, especially to "The New-Englander," a review of which he was long one of the editors. In all his writings, President Woolsey aimed first and chiefly at clearness of expression. He detested the shows of rhetoric. But along with perspicuity and a homely force of diction, there is often an unsought beauty of illustration. He had a genuine delight in the masterpieces of poetry and art.

President Woolsey resigned the Presidency in 1871. Among his labors in the closing period of his life was the task of preparing for the press his copious and learned work on "Political Philosophy," — or the doctrine of rights and the State. The fact should not be omitted that he presided over the New Testament section of the American Revision Committee. All his life he was a student of the Scriptures. Nor did his studies lie in the New Testament alone. He was a Hebrew scholar, and read the ancient Scriptures in the original with facility. His theological learning was far from being limited to the exegetical department. In ecclesiastical history, especially, he was thoroughly informed. In truth, President Woolsey had an appetite for all good learning. His reading was extensive beyond the limits of the provinces which he most cultivated. When he read for recreation, he would sometimes have in his hand a poem in the Old French dialect, or a Greek play of Sophocles, or the *Inferno* of Dante, or the *Politics* of Aristotle in the original. Yet no one could be more free from the disposition to make a show of learning, or to win the applause which attainments so large naturally elicit. Soon after resigning the Presidency he printed a few copies, which were given to special friends, of a small collection of poems from his own pen.

In administering his office as President, he did a very important service in advancing the standards of scholarship, and in infusing, largely by his own example, thoroughness into all the departments of instruction. The College prospered remarkably under his care. Such were the dignity and earnestness of his character, his love of truth and his demand of truthfulness in others were so intense, and his abhorrence of everything base so consuming, that he drew to himself a respect that partook even of awe. Very few members of the numerous classes which he instructed failed to receive, as the result of their contact with him, lasting impressions of a most wholesome character. Rapid in his mental action, intolerant of indirection and of all disguises, with occupations that filled up his time, if he occasionally failed to hold a temper naturally quick under complete control, no one could be more grieved or more ready to make amends. It can

be truly said that the highest estimate of his moral excellence was formed by those who were brought into closest intercourse with him.

President Woolsey lived for eighteen years after he retired from the position of head of the College. His closing days were clouded with infirmities. He died on the 1st of July, 1889.

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### FOREIGN HONORARY MEMBER.

#### JAMES PRESCOTT JOULE.

JAMES PRESCOTT JOULE was born at Salford, near Manchester, England, on December 25, 1818, the second of five children. As a lad he was so delicate that he was not sent to school, but was taught at home by tutors until he was about fifteen years of age, when he began to work in his father's brewery; and when the health of the father declined, the business fell entirely into the hands of young Joule and his brother Benjamin. The business made some knowledge of chemistry a necessity, and the two brothers were sent to Dalton, one of the most distinguished chemists that ever lived, to acquire it. Dalton at that time was President of the Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society, living and taking pupils at the Society's house in Manchester. The boys were taught arithmetic, algebra, and geometry at first, and afterwards natural philosophy and chemistry. For a text-book in chemistry Dalton used his own "New System of Chemical Philosophy." In 1837 Dalton's health became impaired so that he no longer received pupils, and it does not appear that Joule had any further school instruction. Dalton had introduced to his pupil physical and chemical apparatus, and had evidently taught him in some degree the art of experimentation. It is evident, too, that Joule was an apt scholar in that direction, for he at once began to experiment on his own account. He appropriated a room in his father's house, and enlarged his stock of apparatus mostly by his own constructions. There he began, in 1838, before he was twenty years of age, a series of investigations continued through his life, which for ingenuity, thoroughness, and scientific importance have not been exceeded by any one in this century. About an hundred titles of papers by him alone are on the list of the Royal Society of Great Britain, and twenty in conjunction with Thomson, Playfair, and Scoresby.

A distinguishing feature of the whole of Joule's work is his aim for quantitative results. His first work appears to have been upon